WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A storage medium on which is stored a program for recognizing a correspondence among identifiers in a system wherein one or more I/O devices are shared with information processing apparatuses over a network, where common identifiers are used in common among two or more information processing apparatuses for specifying each I/O device, and peculiar identifiers are used by each information processing apparatus for specifying each I/O device, the program comprising codes for causing a computer connected to the network to perform:

a receiving step in which the computer receives first I/O device information corresponding to a common identifier from one of the information processing apparatuses, and second I/O-device information from an I/O device given a peculiar identifier, and

a correspondence recognizing step in which the computer recognizes correspondence between the common identifier and the peculiar identifier by comparing the first I/O-device information with the second I/O-device information.

2. A storage medium on which is stored a program for recognizing a correspondence among identifiers in a system where an information processing apparatus shares one or more I/O devices with other information processing apparatuses over a network, the program comprising codes for:

a common-identifier receiving step in which an information processing apparatus receives a common identifier used in common among two or more information

processing apparatuses for specifying an I/O device,

a first reading step in which the information processing apparatus reads first I/O-device information received from the other information processing apparatuses corresponding to the common identifier,

a second reading step in which the information processing apparatus reads second I/O-device information received from an I/O device given a peculiar identifier used by each information processing apparatus for specifying said I/O device, and

a correspondence recognizing step in which the information processing apparatus recognizes a correspondence between the common identifier and the peculiar identifier by comparing the first I/O-device information with the second I/O-device information.

3. A storage medium on which is stored a program according to claim 2, wherein the program causes the information processing apparatus to perform automatically the first reading step, the second reading step, and the correspondence recognizing step after receiving a common identifier in the common-identifier receiving step.

4. An information processing apparatus sharing one or more I/O devices with other information processing apparatuses over a network, comprising:

a unit for receiving a common identifier used in common among two or more information processing apparatuses for specifying an I/O device;

a first reading unit for reading first I/O-device

information from the other information processing apparatus corresponding to the common identifier;

a second reading unit for reading second I/O-device information from an I/O device given a peculiar identifier used by each information processing apparatus for specifying said I/O device; and

a unit for recognizing correspondence between the common identifier and the peculiar identifier by comparing the first I/O-device information with the secondd I/O-device information.

5. A method for sharing one or more I/O devices with information processing apparatuses over a network, the method comprising the steps of:

a first step in which an information processing apparatus receives a common identifier used in common among two or more information processing apparatuses for specifying an I/O device,

a second step in which the information processing apparatus requests the other information processing apparatus to send first I/O-device information corresponding to the common identifier and reads the second I/O-device information from an I/O device given the common identifier,

a third step in which the other information processing apparatus transmits the first I/O-device information corresponding to the common identifier to the information processing apparatus in responding to said request, and

a forth step in which the information processing apparatus receives the second I/O-device information corresponding to the common identifier, and recognizes the

correspondence between the common identifier and the peculiar identifier by comparing the first I/O-device information with the second I/O-device information.